3. Using Research-to-Operations Evaluation Results to Shape a National Weather Service Training Experience

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In March and April 2016, the National Weather Service (NWS) Operations Proving Ground (OPG) executed an Operational Impact Evaluation (OIE) where NWS forecasters were asked to interrogate satellite imagery from the Japanese Meteorological Agency's Himawari-8 (H-8) Advanced Himawari Imager (AHI) and provide feedback on its usefulness for various analysis tasks. The H-8 imagery was used as a proxy for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R Series (GOES-R), since fifteen of the sixteen H-8 spectral bands are identical to those available from the Advanced Baseline Imager on board the GOES-R satellite. The OIE was conducted by ingesting historical H-8 AHI datasets, surface observations, and National Centers for Environmental Prediction Global Forecast System model output in "displaced real time" into the OPG's Advanced Weather Information Processing System workstations. The results from the OPG evaluation were used as the foundation for a 2-h applications lab during the GOES-R Prep Course; a mandatory training experience for NWS Science and Operations Officers (SOOs) and Developmental Operational Hydrologists (DOHs). In this facilitator guided applications lab, SOOs and DOHs analyzed H-8 imagery and Red-Green-Blue Composites for practical forecaster decision making. This presentation will highlight the findings from the OPG evaluation and show how they were used to build and execute the 2-h applications lab during the GOES-R Prep Course.